

To the Government Administration & Elections Committee,

Re SB 184: AN ACT EXTENDING THROUGH NOVEMBER 8, 2022, SEVERAL CHANGES REGARDING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 AND CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

I strongly request the Committee to pass SB 184 in order to allow Covid-19 to be a valid reason to use absentee ballots for the November 2022 election. We don't know how COVID-19 will present in the fall—we may have a new variant or a serious uptick in cases that will make it frightening to some to come to a polling place and may make the work schedules of essential workers unpredictable, and therefore difficult to make time to get to the polling place on November 8. We should extend the exception passed for 2020 and 2021 into the fall of 2022.

Re HB 5262: AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN ABSENTEE VOTING ELIGIBILITY STATUTES

I strongly request the Committee to pass HB 5262 to allow for the amendment of the current statute which defines the criteria for obtaining an absentee ballot to cover the fear of illness.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,

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